Metro Area Personal Computer Club





Volume No. 40 Club Motto: "Pass it on" October 2021

JPEG XL – Will it become the new standard?

JPEG, the lossy compression standard for images used on the Internet and digital cameras, might receive a much-needed upgrade by year's end. The creators of <u>JPEG XL</u> claim their free open-source format offers up improvements that will result in a significant reduction in global bandwidth and storage costs. The JPEG image format was first developed by researchers at the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in the 1980s. Over the years, due to its many advantages over other formats of the time, it became the go-to format for photos on digital cameras and the World Wide Web. At the time, it was revolutionary, cutting down on the time it took for images to load (think 5 seconds compared to minutes) and could store up to 50 images, rather than 1, on a memory card.

For almost 30 years, this standard, which uses data compression to keep files small, has remained largely unchanged and unchallenged, even after several unsuccessful attempts. That, however, could change. Several formats introduced in the past to replace JPEG, including JPEG 2000, JPEG XR, and even HEIC have fallen short of widespread adoption. JPEG XL is hoping to rewrite that script.

JPEG XL can take existing JPEG files and transcode them, losslessly, to reduce their size without compromising their quality. A single JPEG XL file can be stored on a server and serve both JPEG and JPEG XL clients. A JPEG XL file can also be restored to the initial JPEG through backwards compatibility without compromising the file.

The format will benefit photographers by including a wide color gamut, HDR (high dynamic range), and high bit depth images. Support for printing, large panoramas, 360-degree imagery, and image bursts is also available. Optimized for responsive web environments, it's also addressing current Internet user needs on a wide range of devices such as tablets and smartphones.

'JPEG XL further includes features such as animation, alpha channels, layers, thumbnails, lossless and progressive coding to support a wide range of use cases including but not limited to photo galleries, ecommerce, social media, user interfaces and cloud storage,' reads the official overview. What the creators promise is superior image quality, a codec ratio smaller than the typical 20:1 to 50:1, and encoding plus decoding without hardware acceleration on mobile devices.

The standard has four specifications which will be combined to make JPEG XL the standard, going forward, by the end of 2021, so long as the project doesn't encounter any setbacks. Even if it gets set in stone before the end of the year, it may take time for it to be compatible on all the applications and platforms available. To find out if your browser supports JPEG XL, you can check https://www.dpreview.com/news/5829652105/jpeg-xl-image-format-promises-smaller-files-backwards-compatibility-and-more - Suggested for the newsletter by Joe Cavallaro:)

Presidents Corner

Dear Members,

Well another month gone and time to start a new month. At this time we have found out that we can once again meet in the party room at Apple Barrel (at Sapp Bros.) in C.B.

So at this point we do plan to meet for the October 19, 2021 club meeting. We can't wait to see you there!

Sincerely, David Ladd

Please check back often at https://www.mapcc.com
For updates as we have them for our next club meeting.

Thank you for your support.

Meetings – January-November (usually)
Apple Barrel (at Sapp Bros.)
2608 S. 24th St.
Council Bluffs, Iowa
MEETING BEGINS: 7 PM (NOT in December)

Minutes of the September 21, 2021 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7pm with David Ladd presiding there were 8 members present. Due to the time away, things have been a little crazy... A motion was made by Joe Cavallaro to bump the date for when the dues are next "due" to January of 2023 for those that were paid up. The motion was second by Jeff Worley. Voted on and approved by all of the members present.

Joe Cavallaro then asked if we still had the P.A. system as he has trouble hearing people. David Ladd would check to see if he could get it working for the next meeting.

First Drawing

The \$10 drawing was won by David Ladd.

Minutes and Treasury Report

Minutes and treasury reports were read and approved by the members present.

Old Business

No old business that we could think of anyway.

New Business (and Discussions)

Jeff Worley wants to know if we are going to have a Christmas Party in 2021. Concerns of the time frame and number of people that might show. Also we don't have a crew to handle the planning and setup. Joe Cavallaro feels we should call the members and discuss next month. It was also discussed that we just meet at the usual place and time in December... then... after more discussion...

Joe Cavallaro 3rd made a motion and was seconded by Jeff Worley, voted and approved by the members to have our Christmas Party on the third Tuesday of December (the 21st) at the normal meeting place. The club will pay for the food up to a maximum of \$20 per current (today) member. Member would pay for anything above \$20. Joe Cavallaro 3rd mentioned he had great response from the *Complete Care* folks at Cox with his computer system. Which he believes costs \$10 per month. So he now has Windows 10 on his PC (finally:). Now he just needs to add some more RAM as he only has 4GB of RAM. (he says he has it ordered and is on it's way)

Bruce brought up the *Amazon Sidewalk* mesh snooping system is on by default and YOU HAVE TO OPT OUT!:(

Demo

A quick "demo" was done by Jeff Worley. He showed us a full sized "C64" with HDMI and USB ports that he got back in March of 2021. He also showed us a \$20+/- hardware Floppy Drive Emulator by GOTEK that plugs in like a floppy on the back side, has an USB flash drive port on the front and fits in the space of a 3.5" floppy drive. He'd be happy to show us even more for the next meeting demonstration.

Stick-Around Drawing

The stick around drawing (\$6.50) was won by Don Atkinson.

Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Minutes recorded by Bruce 09/21/2021

M.A.P.C.C.

Established 1982

The Metro Area Personal Computer Club Newsletter is published monthly and posted on the club website: http://www.mapcc.com

Meetings:

3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. (WHEN ALLOWED TO)

Apple Barrel (party room) 2608 S. 24th St. Council Bluffs, IA 51501

Elected Officers:

President: David Ladd

Vice President: Kevin Holloway

Secretary: Bruce

Treasurer: Kevin Holloway

Appointed Officers:

Newsletter Editor: Bruce

Annual Membership Dues:

Individual: \$15.00 Family: \$20.00

Club Motto:

"Pass It On"

Contact: (531) 600-8847